

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Masahiro HONJO

Serial No. NEW : Attn: Application Branch

Filed July 26, 2001 : Attorney Docket No. 2001-1059A

SIGNAL PROCESSING METHOD AND  
SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced U.S. patent application please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS**

**Please amend the claims as follows:**

7. (Amended) The signal processing method of Claim 3 wherein the second coding method is MPEG method, and the fourth coding method is JPEG method.

**Please add the following new claims:**

14. The signal processing method of Claim 4 wherein the second coding method is MPEG method, and the fourth coding method is JPEG method.

15. The signal processing method of Claim 6 wherein the second coding method is MPEG method, and the fourth coding method is JPEG method.

**REMARKS**

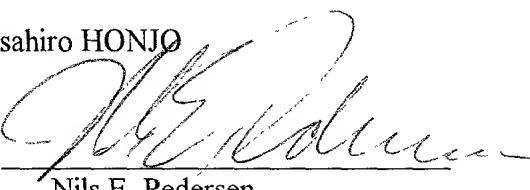
The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to delete the multiple dependency of the claims, thereby placing such claims in condition for examination and reducing the required PTO filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current Preliminary Amendment. The attached page is captioned "Version With Markings to Show Changes Made".

Respectfully submitted,

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to generate decoded audio data;

the re-coding step is a step of re-coding the decoded audio data by a third coding method which is different from the first coding method, to generate re-coded audio data; and

the recording step is a step of recording at least part of the coded video data included in the readout multiplexed data and the re-coded audio data on the second recording medium.

16. The signal processing method of Claim 1

wherein the decoding step is a step of decoding at least part of the coded audio data and at least part of the coded video data which are included in the readout multiplexed data, to generate decoded audio data and decoded video data, respectively;

the re-coding step is a step of re-coding the decoded audio data by a third coding method which is different from the first coding method, to generate re-coded audio data, as well as re-coding the decoded video data by a fourth coding method which is different from the second coding method, to generate re-coded video data; and

the recording step is a step of recording the re-coded audio data and the re-coded video data on the second recording medium.

7. The signal processing method of any of Claims 3, 4 and 6 <sup>Claim 3</sup>, wherein the second coding method is MPEG method, and the fourth coding method is JPEG method.